

parts of the U.S., Alaska included. Many hospitals, labs and some clinics are utilizing EHRs. Alaska has a plan to exchange health information electronically to increase quality and decrease costs. The Alaska eHealth Network (AeHN) has received partial funding to develop a statewide, electronic health network to safely and securely exchange EHRs between authorized healthcare providers and patients. Collaborative efforts are also underway to help providers adopt EHRs. If funding becomes available, your record could be available electronically before June 2011.

Personal Health Records — Take Greater Control of Your Health!

An important part of Alaska's EHR plan includes patient access to your records through an electronic personal health record (PHR). The PHR combines your medical information from your providers, and makes it available in a readable format for you to review and monitor. You can use tools to chart your own health, compare test results over time — in short, take greater control of your own health.

What You Can Do To Help

A show of support from you will fuel these needed changes to our outdated healthcare system and result in positive benefits for all Alaskans. Call or write the AeHN office today to get involved.

More Information

www.ak-ehealth.com

Founding Members

AARP Alaska
Alaska EHR Alliance
Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
Alaska Primary Care Association
Alaska State Hospital and nursing Home Association
Alaska VA Health Care System
Bartlett Regional Hospital
Premiera Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Alaska
Providence Alaska Medical Center
State of Alaska Division of Health and Social Services

Your Health is on the Line.

Online, that is!



How Electronic Health Records
Can Improve Your Health and
Alaska's Healthcare System



4000 Ambassador Drive, Ste. 500 | Anchorage, AK 99508
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SPEED • QUALITY • PRIVACY • SECURITY
SAFETY • EFFICIENCY



Imagine You're Sick

It's a weekend. You end up at the ER. Now imagine your medical records are electronic. Your doctor accesses them quickly via a new, statewide, electronic health record network. If this scenario were real and the Alaska eHealth Network was exchanging health information, here are just some of the benefits you could expect:

IMPROVED SPEED & QUALITY OF CARE: With an Electronic Health Record (EHR) doctors have secure, immediate access to your essential medical information to treat you quickly. Drugs, labs, allergies, medical history- all are included. Drug interactions are displayed. And, through your own personal health record (PHR) you can review your record online and receive medical instructions upon your release.

IMPROVED SAFETY: When critical information is available in real time at the point of care, the risk of a medical error is greatly decreased. And, when past test results are included in the EHR, duplicate, expensive tests will not need to be ordered.

INCREASED EFFICIENCIES: Decreased paperwork and immediate access to records, labs and other test results increase the efficiencies for delivering healthcare services while lowering medical costs for all involved, including you, the patient.

GREATER CONVENIENCE: No more need to repeat your medical and personal history, contact data, or insurance and billing information! You give it once; it's in your EHR.

PRIVACY AND SECURITY SAFEGUARDS: Safeguards are required to ensure your privacy and the secure exchange of your medical information. Contrast that with the unwieldy paper records still in use in many facilities, with outdated and error-prone faxed or telephoned exchange of information.

- You control permissions for what is shared and with whom. Selected sensitive categories of your medical record will not be exchanged without your permission.
- Your records are identified and confirmed through a careful, multi-criteria matching procedure.
- You review your own health and medical history via a secure Internet account (PHR) and you can review who else has looked at it.
- You don't have to worry about your boss looking at your records. Employers do not have access to your medical information.



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EHRs — Alaska's Plan

What's at Stake



"I am a victim of not having electronic health records. I am legally blind because they put me on medication for my heart and four months later, the medicine killed the optic nerve in my eye. They made a mistake by giving me a medication that interacted with one of my existing medications. Had EHRs, with their medicine alerts, been available, I would have my sight today. I hope Alaska will adopt electronic health records soon, so this won't happen to anyone else."

— Alaskan Ben Tisdale, 72 years old

Ben's wish could become real in the near future! EHRs and their exchange are being used in many